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## **National Intelligence Daily**

Tuesday 6 April 1982

**Top Secret** 

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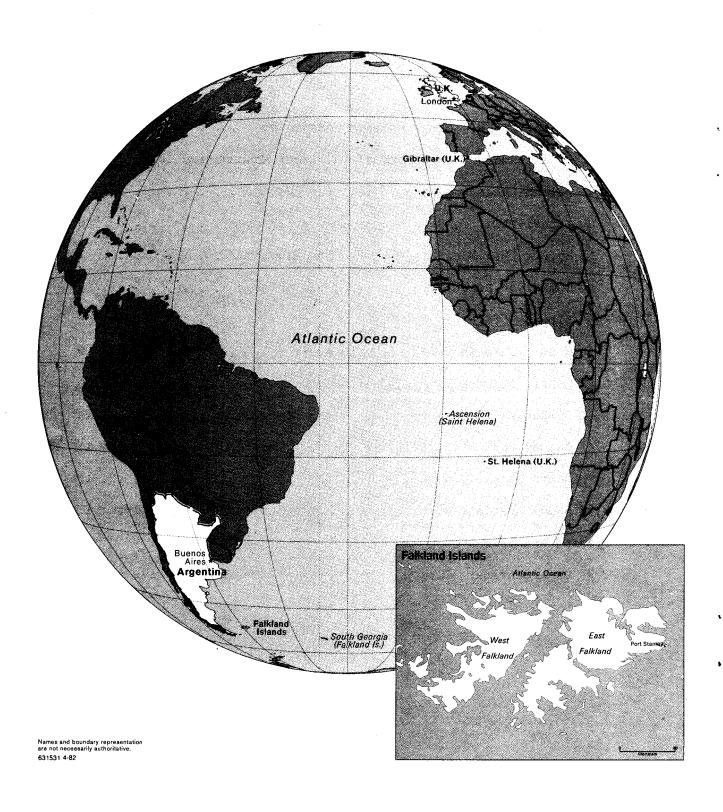
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Argentina-UK: Confrontation Co	ontinuing 1
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6 April 1982



ARGENTINA-	-UK: Confrontati	on Continui	.ng
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Comment: The US position on the dispute is not yet a major focus of comment in Buenos Aires, but increasing attention is likely to be devoted to Washington's actions. One of the major Argentine daily newspapers editorialized that, once again, Argentina has been abandoned by the West. The Argentines have been disappointed with what they regard as the US tilt toward the UK.
According to an Argentine press report, the Soviet Ambassador met with Argentine officials yesterday in Buenos Aires, and an unconfirmed press report states that a "high-level" Argentine official will go to Moscow shortly to discuss the Falkland Islands issue. Meanwhile, a TASS dispatch criticized London, suggesting that the Thatcher government intends to resolve the dispute by military rather than diplomatic means.

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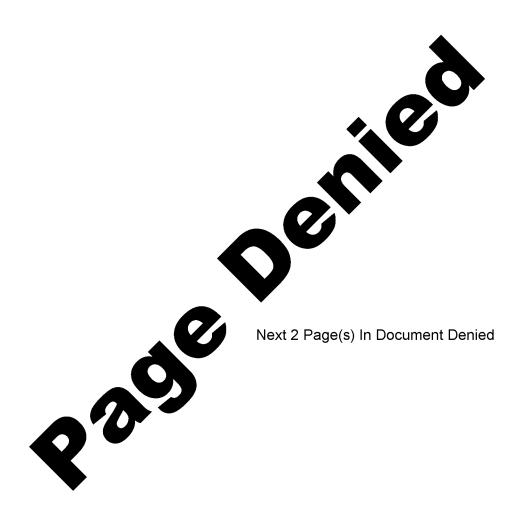
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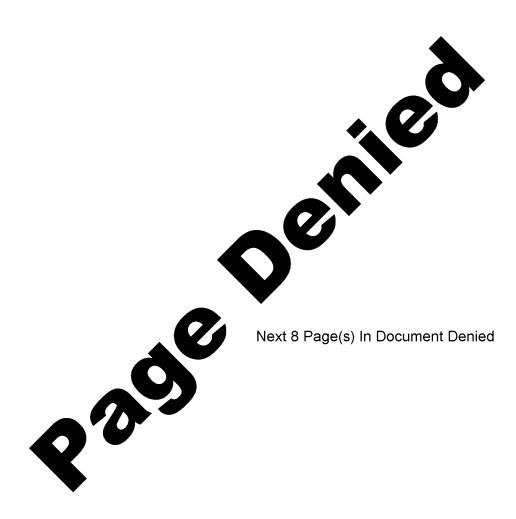
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President Mubarak has consolidated his domestic position, but he faces continuing economic and foreign problems that will challenge his abilities in the months ahead.  Most Egyptians seem pleased with Mubarak's low-key leadership style. His rejection of Israel's demand that he visit Jerusalem and his tough stand on the Sinai border demarcation issue have helped to improve his standing with those who believed that Sadat gave in too often to Israeli and US pressure in the peace process.  On the other hand, Mubarak has not produced any deep popular enthusiasm, and his advisers believe that his position remains vulnerable, particularly on economic matters. Even if Mubarak can cope with the short-term problems of a rising budget deficit and a mounting foreign payments problem, rapid population growth is creating enormous, long-term social and economic difficulties.  Comment: Several foreign policy issues will have an important impact on Mubarak's position. A rapprochement with the other Arabs, especially if it leads to renewed Arab financial aid, would be popular with Egyptians. Mubarak is likely to be blamed, however, if a reconciliation does not occur.  In addition, the recent violence in the West Bank has led to more disillusionment among Egyptians over Israel's policies. As a result, Mubarak will have to maintain a firm stance on the Jerusalem and border issues or face serious criticism.	President Mubarak has consolidated his domestic position, but he faces continuing economic and foreign problems that will challenge his abilities in the months ahead.  Most Egyptians seem pleased with Mubarak's low-key leadership style. His rejection of Israel's demand that he visit Jerusalem and his tough stand on the Sinai border demarcation issue have helped to improve his standing with those who believed that Sadat gave in too often to Israeli and US pressure in the peace process.  On the other hand, Mubarak has not produced any deep popular enthusiasm, and his advisers believe that his position remains vulnerable, particularly on economic matters. Even if Mubarak can cope with the short-term problems of a rising budget deficit and a mounting foreign payments problem, rapid population growth is creating enormous, long-term social and economic difficulties.  Comment: Several foreign policy issues will have an important impact on Mubarak's position. A rapprochement with the other Arabs, especially if it leads to renewed Arab financial aid, would be popular with Egyptians. Mubarak is likely to be blamed, however, if a reconciliation does not occur.  In addition, the recent violence in the West Bank has led to more disillusionment among Egyptians over Israel's policies. As a result, Mubarak will have to			Top Secret
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